

Citizens with Disabilities Advisory Committee Meeting
January 15, 2009
Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Members Present: Kathe Coleman, Leroy O'Brien, Patricia Kepler, Irwin Caldwell, David Beck, Karen McKenney, Tony Guillen,

Members Absent: Bob Lidfors, Jamie Cloghessy (excused), Jackie Stoval, Caleb Wright.

Guests: Sharon Chambers, Phil Palmer

Reports: None

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- New members Karen McKenney, David Beck and Tony Guillen were introduced and welcomed to the committee.
- Electing a Chairperson and Vice-chairperson for 2009 took place. Kathe made a motion for Irwin Caldwell to serve as Chair person, Leroy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Patricia Kepler made a motion to elect her as Vice-chairperson, Irwin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Congratulations to Irwin and Patricia.
- Kathe brought an article written by Kathie Snow, who is with www.disabilityisnatural.com (an organization that promotes education about disabilities). The article "People First Language" provided information on the PC way to address or describe persons with disabilities. The members thought it could be used to develop an article for the City newsletter to educate the public on terms and labels often used to describe people with disabilities. Karen volunteered to draft such an article.
- Kathe brought a draft work plan for the Committee to consider for the upcoming year. The plan identifies several topics (Access, parking, housing, transportation, etc...) that could be used to develop actions, activities and recommendations from the committee. The members agreed to review the plan and be prepared to discuss "next steps" for the plan at the February meeting.
- Patricia brought up several concerns stemming from the recent snowfall event. Apparently little or no transportation services were available for the disabled, and some were left stranded with no way to get food or medication. Patricia provided a Web link www.networkofcare.com that provides a list of information where consumers, community-based organizations and municipal government workers all can go to access a wide variety of important information, including

information on disabilities. Patricia's focus was a voluntary emergency registry available for Multnomah County available on the Web site at: <http://multnomah.or.networkofcare.org/aging/home/index.cfm>. Patricia asked if the City could consider creating a similar registry. During the February 21, 2008 meeting Mike Mumaw (City Emergency Management Division) was a guest speaker. Mr. Mumaw discussed a similar registry; however, it was pointed out that many people are reluctant to register because of concerns for privacy. In addition, Mr. Mumaw pointed out that such a registry would need clear objectives and expectations as to how the registry would serve the community, and what resources it would take. Brad will discuss the possibility of creating a registry with Mr. Mumaw and report back to the Committee. On the same subject, Kathe noted that many people who are uncomfortable with a regional registry may be inclined to register with a local community organization or church. Kathe agreed to draft an article informing people who have special needs (especially during emergencies) to consider networking with organizations or churches in their community.

- Irwin asked if Brad could provide contact information for the Committee members. Brad agreed to forward a list.
- Brad will also provide a copy of the Committee Bylaws for the new members.

The next meeting is February 19, 2009 at 4:00 pm.